

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: December 20, 2019

December 23rd Council Meeting Cancelled

Just a reminder, the December 23rd City Council meeting was cancelled. The next meeting of the City Council will be on Monday, January 13, 2020.

Lane Transit District Mobility on Demand Meeting

The City Manager, City Planner and South Lane Wheels Director met with representatives from Lane Transit District to discuss the future of the Mobility on Demand service after the pilot project ends. The pilot project end date has been extended to August, 2020. The discussion considered possible ways to continue the service, changes in the software and costs. More discussion and information will be coming in the future.

Lane Transit District Route 98

Lane Transit District will be reinstating the in town loops for Route 98 service in Cottage Grove starting on February 2, 2020. This will provide data about the impact of the Mobility on Demand service on Route 98 and hopefully provide some useful ride data that will be used to evaluate the MOD and Route 98 loops.

Lane County Small Cities Meeting

The City Manager met with the administrators from Coburg, Creswell, Oakridge and Veneta to discuss issues facing small cities and to share ideas. They discussed transportation infrastructure and funding, coordination with other agencies or organizations and state legislative activities.

Tree Removal

The Urban Forestry Committee reviewed and concurred with a tree report for the large Douglas Fir tree in Coiner Park along Main Street. The report was performed by the City's Arborist, Chris Senters. The report shared that the tree's health is failing for several reasons; a fire across Main Street killed approximately 25% of the branches on the north side of the tree, the top was damaged in a storm years ago which resulted in a forked top allowing rot to attack the tree at the former break, and finally mushrooms and rot have decayed the roots and lower trunk of the tree. The recommendation is to remove the tree as soon as possible as it poses a threat to vehicles traveling on Main Street and the basketball court. City staff is in the process of soliciting bids for the removal in hopes to have the tree and stump removed in January 2020.

It is unfortunate to lose this large older tree in our park. The Urban Forestry Committee will be planting the Hiroshima Tree it has been awarded on February 17th in the location of the removed

Douglas Fir tree. This will be a great place to plant the Hiroshima Tree to be seen from passersby and park users. Over time the tree will grow and become as prominent as the current Fir tree has.

New Fleet and Facilities Manager

December 9, 2019 was the first day for Mike Cummings as the Fleet and Facilities Manager for the Public Works & Development Department. Mike has been a fleet supervisor for close to six years for both Sysco and Lane Forest Products. We welcome Mike to the City and staff is looking forward to working together keeping the City's facilities and fleet up and running.

Volunteers Needed

The City of Cottage Grove is partnering with Lane County for the Unsheltered Point in Time (PIT) Count on Thursday, January 30, 2020. All volunteers will be required to participate in a training prior to the count. To sign up for Unsheltered PIT count, you can register at www.LaneCounty.org/HomelessCount. For more information on volunteering please contact Teresa Cowan or Jessica Klarr at (541) 942-1185.

City Offices closed

City of Cottage Grove offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 25th for the Christmas holiday.

Quote of the Week

“May you never be too grown up to search the skies on Christmas Eve.”

~Anonymous~